

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-07

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 IGA-02 L-03 DRC-01 DODE-00 /102 W

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P 151131Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6791

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM (SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT)

REF: A) STATE 142880 B) STATE A-3527 DATED MAY 1, 1974

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT, KEYED TO PARAGRAPHS IN REFAIR, IS FURNISHED ON THE FUNDS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 482 (APPROPRIATION SYMBOL #72-1141022, ALLOTMENT SYMBOL #422-50-730-00-69-41):

2. PART A

A1. PROJECT: ENFORCEMENT CATEGORY, AS OF JUNE 30, 1974

OBLIGATIONS \$95,950

EXPENDITURES \$80,000

A2. TYPES AND QUANTITIES OF EQUIPMENT ON PROCUREMENT:

65 REVOLVERS, 12 LEAD ACID BATTERIES, 1 ELECTROLYTE, 8 CALBE CONNECTORS, AND LABORATORY AND GROOMING EQUIPMENT FOR NARCOTICS DETECTION DOG.

A3. SUPPORT COSTS: NONE

A4. TRAINING: NONE.

3. PART B

B1. MISSION NARCOTICS CONTROL COORDINATOR IS DCM W.J. LEHMANN. DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1974, VIETNAMESE

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NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENTS EFFORTS RECEIVED A SIGNIFICANT BOOST

WHEN THE COMMANDER OF THE NATIONAL POLICE AUTHORIZED A 50PERCENT MANPOWER INCREASE WITHIN THE NARCOTICS BUREAU. CURRENTLY, COMPANY GRADE OFFICERS AND TOP ENLISTED MEN ARE BEING INTERVIEWED BY THE CHIEF NARCOTICS FOR THE POSITIONS WITH EMPHASIS BEING PLACED ON INTEGRITY, NARCOTICS EXPERTISE, AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES AS THE MAIN CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE.

B2. VIETNAM CONTINUES TO BE A VICTIM COUNTRY WITH A GROWING ADDICTION RATE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL. DURING THE LAST MONTH, INTELLIGENCE HAS DISCLOSED THAT THE PRICE OF A STREET DOSAGE OF HEROIN HAS INCREASED FROM VN\$1,500 TO APPROXIMATELY VN\$2,500 AND THE QUALITY APPEARS TO HAVE DECLINED DUE TO HEAVY ADULTERATION. THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS INDICATED A STRONG ATTITUDE AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, SMUGGLING, AND ABUSE, AND HAS INITIATED VARIOUS EDUCATIONAL AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF NARCOTICS WITHIN VIETNAM.

B3. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY EVIDENCE OF OPIUM POPPY BEING GROWN IN SOUTH VIETNAM, NOR HAS THERE EVER BEEN ANY EVIDENCE OF ANY CLANDESTINE CONVERSION LABORATORIES FOR OPIATE DERIVATIVES.

B4. MISSION HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT VIETNAM IS NOT A CONDUIT FOR ILLICIT NARCOTICS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY. INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION OBTAINED THROUGH ARRESTS OF OFFENDERS AND ABUSERS INDICATE THAT NARCOTICS ENTERING VIETNAM ARE DIRECTED FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE FINANCIERS AND TRAFFICKING KINGPINS ARE ETHNIC CHINESE RESIDING IN VIETNAM.

B5. LISTED BELOW ARE THE TOTAL SEIZURE OF DRUGS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1974 (COMBINED NATIONAL POLICE AND CUSTOMS FIGURES):

HEROIN	12.136 KILOGRAMS
OPIUM-PREPARED	24.209 KILOGRAMS
OPIUM-RAW	1,910.5 KILOGRAMS
MARIJUANA	2.150 KILOGRAMS
MISCELLANEOUS DANGEROUS DRUGS	

(BARBITURATES, AMPHETAMINES) 458 UNITS

ON JUNE 26, 1974 THE VIETNAMESE NAVY INTERCEPTED A THAI FISHING TRAWLER WHICH HAS VIOLATED VIETNAMESE TERRITORIAL WATERS. SUBSEQUENT SEARCH OF THIS VESSEL DISCLOSED A VERY LARGE CARGO (SEE ABOVE) OF RAW OPIUM WHICH WAS DESTINED FOR HONG KONG. VIETNAMESE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES CONTINUE TO DEAL VERY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STRICTLY WITH NARCOTICS VIOLATORS.

B6. NOT APPLICABLE.

B7. THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM HAS RECENTLY APPROVED A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER FOR MILITARY NARCOTICS ABUSERS TO BE INITIATED IN AUGUST ON PHU QUOC ISLAND, SOUTH VIETNAM. THIS PROGRAM WILL CONSIST OF A TWO-MONTH TREATMENT PERIOD. FOLLOWING REHABILITATION, THE SOLDIER WILL RETURN TO MILITARY SERVICE TO COMPLETE HIS TOUR OF DUTY. A CIVILIAN REHABILITATION CENTER

FOR VOLUNTARY DRUG ABUSERS IS LOCATED IN LONG BINH. THE FOLLOWING
STATISTICS ARE THE LATEST AVAILABLE CONCERNING THIS CENTER.

PERIOD OF REPORT - JANUARY 1 THROUGH APRIL 30, 1974

TOTAL PATIENTS TREATED: 282

COMPOSED OF: GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES 33

SOLDIERS (APRIL 1974 ONLY) 23

STUDENTS 64

CIVILIANS (EMPLOYEES) 53

NO PROFESSION (MOSTLY STUDENTS) 109

DRUG--HEROIN SMOKING 18

INJECTING

88

SMOKING 6

--OPIUM SMOKING 38

INJECTING 56

SMOKING 16

AGE LEVEL: UNDER AGE 18 66

FROM 19 TO 25 YEARS OF AGE 108

FROM 26 TO 45 YEARS OF AGE 70

OVER AGE 45 38

B8. THERE HAS BEEN NO DEA IN-COUNTRY OR OTHER U.S. TRAINING
DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD FOR VIETNAMESE NARCOTICS
OFFICERS. (RE PARA 2 REFTEL, NO OFFERS OF TRAINING WERE MADE TO
HOST COUNTRY.)

B9. THE VIETNAMESE CUREAU CONTINUES WITH THE SPIRIT OF
COOPERATION WITH OTHER NARCOTICS BUREAUS WITHIN VARIOUS COUNTRIES
OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. SOUTH VIETNAM IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER MEMBER OF
INTERPOL.

B10. NOTHING TO REPORT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, SEMIANNUAL REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON09326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740188-0935
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740748/aaaabpde.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 142880 B) STATE A-3527 DATE, D MAY 1, 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM (SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT)
TAGS: SNAR, US, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005